

The Weekly Louisianaian.

"REPUBLICAN AT ALL TIMES, AND UNDER ALL CIRCUMSTANCES."

JOURNAL OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY OF LOUISIANA.

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PROSPECTUS

OF THE

Louisianian.

THE LOUISIANIAN

was established to meet a necessity

that has long, and sometimes, pain-

fully been felt to exist.

It was proposed through this

Journal to furnish to our people

the information—guidance—en-

couragement and counsel which

they so much needed in the transi-

tion from their former unfortunate

condition into the new and better

estate of American citizenship.

In resuming its publication, we

re-assure our readers and friends,

that, holding this journal true to its

original aims, we shall honestly

labor to make it an efficient agent

in furthering the interests of the

colored people of the Nation, and

elevating the race that it especially

represents.

POLICY.

As our motto indicates, the

LOUISIANIAN shall be "Republican at

all times and under all circum-

stances." We shall advocate the

security and enjoyment of broad

civil liberty, the absolute equality

of all men before the law, and an

impartial distribution of honor and

patronage to all who merit them.

Desirous of allaying animosities,

of obliterating the memory of the

bitter past, of promoting harmony

and union among all classes and

between all interests, we shall

advocate the removal of all disabili-

ties, foster kindness and forbear-

ance, where malignity and resent-

ment reigned, and seek for fairness

and justice where wrong and op-

pression prevailed. Thus united in

our aims and objects, we shall con-

serve our best interests, and elevate

our noble State to an enviable po-

sition among her sister States, by the

development of her illimitable re-

sources, and secure the full benefits

of the mighty changes in the history

and condition of the people and the

country.

Believing that there can be no

true liberty without the supremacy

of law, we shall urge a strict and

undiscriminating administration of

justice.

TAXATION.

We shall support the doctrine of

an equitable division of taxation

among all classes, a faithful col-

lection of the revenues, economy in

GO FEEL WHAT I HAVE FELT.

Go, feel what I have felt,

Go, bear what I have borne—

Sink 'neath the blows a father dealt,

And the cold worlds scorn;

The sufferer on from year to year—

The sole relief of the scorching tear.

Go, kneel where I have knelt,

Implore, beseech and pray—

Strive the besotted heart to melt,

The downward course to stay;

Be dashed with bitter curse aside,

Your prayers barbed your tears defied.

Go, weep as I have wept,

Behold the strong man bow—

With gnashing teeth, lips bathed in blood,

A cold and livid brow;

Go, catch his withering glance, and see

There mirrored his soul's misery.

Go, hear, and feel, and see, and know.

All that my soul hath felt and known,

Then look upon the wine cup's glow,

See if its beauty can atone—

Think if its flavor you will try

When all proclaims, "Tis drink and die!"

Tell me I hate the bowl—

Hate is but a feeble word;

I loath—abhor—my very soul

With strong disgust is stirred,

Whene'er I see, or hear, or tell

Of that dark beverage of hell

ITEMS.

PROMISSORY NOTES.—The Bal-

timore News report a recent case of

an altered promissory note on which

the maker was held liable. He

used the printed form and did not

close up the blank devoted to dollars,

and after passing it as negotiable

papers, somebody inserted "and

fifty," after the one hundred and

before the printed word dollars.

The note thus altered, got into the

hands of an innocent party, who

presented it to the drawer, and the

Supreme Court decided that the

maker of the note was liable for its

contents, because, through negligence,

he did not draw a line between

the written words and "dollars."

Any testimony that the drawer

might offer to establish the fact

that he gave the note for

one hundred dollars must go for

nothing, as "there was nothing on

the face of the note to show that it

had been altered." Evidence of an

alteration on the face of the note

would have changed the case.

Dumas never ignored his color.

"One day," says a correspondent,

"he threw back the curtain of an alcove

to show me the portrait of his father.

It was the only picture in the room

(the walls being concealed by purple

tapestry), and with a filial veneration,

he had placed it over his bed.

"You see," said he, "what a noble

formed man he was." Then he

added, musingly, "he was a mulatto,

of a shade darker than myself."

When Sir Walter Scott and his

wife were walking out together, they

came across a flock of lambs, frisk-

ing in a meadow. "Ah," said Sir

Walter, "it is no wonder that poets

from the earliest ages, have made

the lamb the emblem of peace and

returned to dinner. "This is

excellent," said he. "What did

you pay for it?" "What you gave

me this morning?" said she. "The

deceit you did!" said he, "then you

shall have marketing money in

GOVERNOR PINCHBACK AND HIS CLAIMS.

[From the Grand Era.]

Hon. P. B. S. Pinchback, Sena-

tor elect from the State of Louisiana,

to the United States Senate, after

repeated absences at the Capitol of

the Nation, awaiting a decision in

his case, is once more among his

constituents and friends.

With that indomitable energy

characteristic of the man, and

which has successfully carried him

from the common walks of a high-

erto oppressed people to the suc-

cessive official positions of a State

Senator, Lieutenant Governor, Act-

ing Governor, and finally, a United

States Senator, he has, since his

last promotion been almost un-

interrupted at the National Capitol,

engaged—not only in efforts to

secure his own seat—but to secure

the recognition by Congress of the

present State government of Loui-

siana.

Looking back to the dark days

of 1872, just after the election,

when the fate of the Republican

party of this State trembled in the

balance, when the vindictive en-

emies of Republicanism, aided by

false and treacherous ex-Republi-

cans, were plotting to defraud us

of our ballots, when the chief ex-

ecutive of this State, losing faith in

the combined forces of Fusionists, Gre-

eleyites and fraud, felt it necessary

to make an effort to save his totter-

ing throne, he looked toward his

Lieut. Governor—Pinchback—and

in the silent hour of midnight, just

upon the eve of the assembling of

the new Legislature, he approached

Governor Pinchback with an appeal

to save him and his horde of false

Republicans, Fusionists and Gre-

leyites, and back his appeal with a

golden argument.

Forgetting the friendship and in-

timacy existing between them, for-

getting of self, sacrificing and sur-

rendering personal aggrandizement

to characteristics of a more ennob-

ling nature, and with only the

cause and right of the Republican

party of this State before him, and

its success and triumph his only

reward, Governor Pinchback spur-

red the temptation, and the State

was saved to the Republican party.

And his reward came, when from

the National Capitol, flashed the fiat

of President Grant, recognizing

Acting Governor Pinchback as the

legal Governor of Louisiana, and

the government over which he so

ably presided, the legitimate gov-

ernment of this State; then we know

that the honest hearts of thousands

of colored men all over the State,

united in awarding him a more sin-

cere and lasting reward, than the

golden one offered him to betray

the Republican party.

A little later and the great Sena-

torial struggle came on. Governor

Pinchback although aware of the

immense benefit rendered by him

to the Republican party in her

greatest hour of need, and in the face

of an intention on the part of his

friends to advance him still further,

yielded to a desire, in his opinion

to still further secure the fruits of a

first choice of the legislative body

of this State for this high and hon-

orable position, and the righteous-

ness of his election was echoed

back from every parish of the State

as an honor richly merited by him.

The work of Governor Pinch-

back since his election as United

States Senator is too well known to

need repetition here. Faithfully,

ardently and determinedly has he

fought to secure the recognition of

the whole State Government by the

National Congress, from the highest

official to the lowest and most hum-

ble member of the same. In every

phase of the Louisiana case, he has

stood shoulder to shoulder with our

defenders, even at times, forgetting

the old adage that, "Charity begins

at home."

He has seen the fruits of his labor,

in connection with other able and

faithful co-operators. He has seen

every single member of our State

government firmly secured in the

position which the Republicans of

this State elected them to; he has

seen the various parochial officials

quieted in their positions, and he

has witnessed the seating of every

member of the Lower House of the

National Congress; and yet to-day,

he returns to his constituents, de-

prived as yet of his rightful claim

to a seat in the Senate of the United

States; and for what reason? This

is the question which now agitates

and baffles us all.

From the beginning of the present

State government up to this time,

he has certainly deported himself in

such a manner as to deserve suc-

cess.

Whilst every manner of doubt

has been placed upon his right to a

seat in the United States Senate by

his opponents, whilst every obstacle

of a purely personal and question-

able character has been used as a

hindrance to the final action in his

case, and days have glided into

weeks, and weeks into months until

The Louisianian.

HENRY A. CORBIN, Publisher.

SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 1874.

All letters on business connected with this paper should be addressed to H. A. CORBIN, Business Manager, New Orleans, Feb. 28, 1874.

The proprietor of this paper will not be responsible for the correctness of communications.

Col. W. B. BARNETT is our special agent and is authorized to solicit subscriptions and receive payment of bills.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

The Presidents of all the Republican Clubs in the city are respectfully requested to send to this office, the time and place of meeting of their respective clubs. We desire to have a Club Directory in our columns.

NOTICE.

All parties now receiving the LOUISIANIAN, are notified that the delivery of same will be discontinued, if not paid for by the first of May next.

CLUB DIRECTORY.

FIRST WARD CENTRAL CLUB—Corner Melbourn and White streets. Meets every Monday, at 7 o'clock. J. C. Miller, Pres't, George C. Norcross, Secretary.

SECOND WARD CENTRAL CLUB—Goulds Hall, Erato between Baronne and Carondelet. G. F. Glendon, President, A. Elliot, Secretary.

THIRD WARD CENTRAL CLUB—Clay Hall, Perdido street, meets every Saturday evening. C. F. Ladd, President, John Puhm, Secretary.

FOURTH WARD CENTRAL CLUB—Corner of Conti and Tremé streets, meets every Monday evening. Robert Malcolm, Pres't, Chas. P. Vigora, Secretary.

FIFTH WARD CENTRAL CLUB—Julien Lombard, President, O. P. Fernandez, Secretary.

SIXTH WARD CENTRAL CLUB—Claborn near Ursaline streets. R. P. Joubert, President, L. Lamanier, Secretary.

THIRTEENTH WARD CENTRAL CLUB—Evening Star Hall, Cadet between Camp and Chestnut streets. A. Dejon, President, J. B. Malony, Secretary.

SIXTEENTH WARD CENTRAL CLUB—Claborn Hall, Adam street, meets every Saturday. John T. Claborn, President, H. McCray, Secretary.

SEVENTEENTH WARD CENTRAL CLUB—Corner Camborne and Burth streets. T. B. Stamps, President, F. Diebel, Secretary.

The appointment of Henry Adams Corbin, Esquire, the publisher and business manager of this paper, as Secretary of the School Board at its last meeting will give satisfaction to the Republican party, and reflects great credit upon the members of the Board for their judicious appointment; as Mr. Corbin is a young man of excellent business qualities and well fitted for the position, besides being one of the most popular of our good-looking and agreeable young men.

THE OYSTER JOURNAL.

Our bivalvular contemporary the *Picayune*, whose chief editor, as declared by himself, "was born on an oyster bed," responds to our article on the New Orleans Press spitefully.

The concession, from an honest journalist, that Governor Pinchback "was a leader of great power," possessing "almost unlimited possibilities for good," would be considered highly and justly complimentary; but in this case it is an admission, long deferred and made only when the *Picayune*, conscious of its own impotency, is forced thereto by a public opinion before which it trembles.

Any complacency that Governor Pinchback might feel, by so full an admission on the part of his political opponents, as to his influence, is in this instance, marred, because the concession is both forced and insincere.

Despite the *Picayune's* effort to produce dissension in the ranks of the colored Republicans, by insidiously arraying the colored leaders of the party against each other, we shall still stand as a unit against both the malice and the chicanery of our foes.

We propose to do our own thinking and voting, and follow leaders of our own choice, what ever may be the suggestions of the Oyster who edits the *Picayune*.

THE STATE-HOUSE LEASE.

AN INEXCUSABLE OUTRAGE ON THE STATE.

Singular enough there is found in the general appropriation bill of 1874—sandwiched between two specific appropriations—a provisional clause, creating a Board of Commissioners on Public Buildings, consisting of the Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Speaker of the House of Representatives, and empowering them to lease a building to be used as a State House, at a cost not exceeding fifty thousand dollars per annum, and for a period not to exceed twenty years.

It is questionable whether ten members of the General Assembly noticed the introduction of this foreign and incongruous clause into the appropriation bill, and its presence, under the circumstances, no less than its character, in so recklessly conferring power on the commissioners over the public purse and public faith, were both alike suspicious and suggestive of a possible and speedy abuse of power.

These possibilities are now realities, as, by reference to a lease made with the National Building Association, and on record in the Mortgage office, it appears that the commissioners have leased the St. Louis Hotel for a State House, at a rental of fifty thousand dollars per annum, and for a period of nineteen years: thus coming up to the full limit of their power in the price, and full limit in time, save one year.

From a copy of the contract, herewith subjoined, it will be seen that the lease is signed by Hon. Mr. Benham and by R. E. Rivers, President and Secretary respectively, on the part of the company, and by Lieutenant Governor C. C. Antoine, and Hon. Speaker C. W. Lowell, on the part of the commissioners.

From the best information we can obtain, this company consists of the following persons: Messrs. Benham, Dewees, Wands and Mathews—all members of the House, and active workers in the passage of the Bill authorizing the lease—and Messrs. Rivers, of the St. Charles Hotel, and Joseph H. Oglesby, President of the Chamber of Commerce, and President of the Louisiana National Bank, the present fiscal agent of the State.

In other words, all parties, lessors and lessees, to this outrage upon the people of Louisiana, with the exception of Rivers, are either officers or agents of the State and people, who have been wronged. In this connection we are pleased to see that Governor Kellogg, with his usual sound discretion, far sightedness and determination to protect the financial interest of the State, has refused, peremptorily, to give his signature to this monstrosity, and we regret that the influence used by him was not equal to prevent the approval of the lease, by his associate commissioners.

If His Excellency should fail to direct the Attorney General to intervene in behalf of the State, so as to secure the dissolution of this lease, he will find in the contract, a reason, additional to those he has already so forcibly given, in favor of the Funding Bill—the public debt must be heavily scaled, to enable the State to pay nine hundred and fifty thousand dollars as rental to the Building Association.

Our readers will see the grossness of the outrage perpetrated upon the people, when we tell them that so much as was needed of the building, could have been rented for about fifteen thousand dollars a year, and it could have been purchased outright, for less than one hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

There is protection in the courts for the people against the successful carrying out of this wrong, and it is to be found in the restraint, and annulment of the contract, under the orders of the court, on the ground of its illegal character. In our judgment the invalidity of the contract will appear in that Article, 114 of the Constitution has not been conformed to in the statute, and further it violates Article 104, 111, and the amendment of the Constitution limiting the debt to twenty five millions dollars.

We were not much surprised that Messrs. Benham, Wands, Dewees,

Mathews, Rivers and Oglesby, who are known to be enterprising financiers and men who generally keep an eye upon the main chance, should want to make "a good thing" out of the State; but we are mortified and pained, that our friend Governor Antoine, a representative of our race and largely the custodian of their political honor, occupying the second office of honor and responsibility in the gift of the people of Louisiana, and Speaker Lowell, supposed to represent the healthiest and best white element, among the new comers in our party, should so far forget themselves and the sanctities of their obligations, as the trustees of the people in this matter, as to suffer and sanction this great wrong against the State.

In this connection we note, to the credit of the colored citizens of Louisiana, that not one of them is found in the list of the six beneficiaries on the public crib, who constitute the National Building Association, but, as far as we are at present advised, they are, if not "the oldest and best" at least all *Noble Caucasians*.

We appeal to the public opinion of the Republican party to so express itself as to suppress this iniquity, and earnestly hope that Attorney General Fields, will step forth boldly and fearlessly, as is his wont, to protect the interest of the people.

STATE OF LOUISIANA.

Parish of Orleans.

"The Louisiana National Building Association, a corporation duly organized under the laws of the State of Louisiana, through its President George C. Benham and Secretary Robert E. Rivers, acting herein by virtue of and in pursuance of a resolution of the Board of Directors of said corporation, a duly certified copy of which resolution is hereto annexed, hereby agree to lease to the State of Louisiana, herein represented by Wm. P. Kellogg, Governor, C. C. Antoine, Lieutenant Governor, and Charles W. Lowell, Speaker of the House of Representatives, who compose and constitute the Board of Public Buildings, under the authority of Act No. 59 of the Legislature, approved March 16, 1874, for the term of nineteen years from the date hereof, that property known as the St. Louis Hotel, situated in the square bounded by St. Louis, Royal, Toulouse and Chartres streets, at the yearly rent of \$50,000, payable quarterly, viz: On the first day of April, July, October and January of each year, in equal installments; and during the period of this lease it shall be exempt from State and municipal taxes, during which time the said buildings are to be used by the State for the various Executive departments, and for the General Assembly, and the State hereby agrees, to keep the said buildings and premises in good order, to put nothing therein which would forfeit the insurance, deliver up and return the same at the expiration of the present lease in good order.

Signed in duplicate at New Orleans, this 17th seventeenth day of April, 1874.

Witness:
J. H. McVEAN,
B. K. ANDERSON.
Geo. C. BENHAM, President.
R. E. RIVERS, Treasurer and Secretary.
C. C. ANTOINE, Lieutenant Governor.
CHARLES W. LOWELL, Speaker House Representatives.
STATE OF LOUISIANA,
City of New Orleans.

Before the undersigned authority personally came and appeared Robert K. Anderson, of Carroll parish, in this State, momentarily in this city, who being duly sworn according to law, deposes and says, that the signatures of C. C. Antoine, Lieutenant Governor, Charles W. Lowell, Speaker House of Representatives, George C. Benham, President, and R. E. Rivers, Treasurer and Secretary, are the genuine signatures of said party who affixed their signatures to the foregoing instrument of writing in his presence; that the same was signed by said parties for the uses and purposes therein set forth, and thereupon the said deponent has hereunto signed his name.

B. K. ANDERSON.
In testimony whereof, I grant these presents under my signature [seal] and official seal, at the city of New Orleans, this 18th of April, 1874.

JOHN L. LAMARCHE,
Third Justice of the Peace.
New Orleans, April 18, 1874.
C. DANCANIEL,
Deputy Recorder.

THE PARISH CONVENTION.

ITS WORK.

Last week elections for delegates to the Parish Convention were held in the several Wards of this city, and the delegates will meet in Convention at the Mechanics' Institute to-day at 12 M.

There is no more important political convention held in the State, than that of the Parish of Orleans, except it be the convention of the State at large.

Not only the success of the party in the city but of the whole State will be effected, for good or evil, by the action and spirit of the body that assembles to-day. Where there is freedom of thought, differences of opinion will occur, and we can hardly conceive of the manly independence, so necessary to self respect and which grows out of honest differences of opinion, without more or less of contest and division.

There is nothing exceptional or discouraging, in these particulars, in the condition of our party to-day. There is division and some bitterness among our honest, but irrepressible friends in several of the wards, but this bitterness can be removed and these divisions healed by ordinary prudence and conciliation exercised by the members of the convention to-day.

Some of the contests may be decided on their merits, some may be compromised, and some, under conditions acceptable to both classes, may be referred to the voters of the wards for their solution.

It occurs to us, that the convention, after due deliberation and with a view to do what is right towards each, and to fairly represent the will of the various constituencies of the delegates, may by some one of these methods compass the ends of justice, peace, and harmony for the Republican party of New Orleans.

We must not forget in the actions of to-day, that there is an organized powerful political opposition still in the field against us, and we cannot permit a serious division in our ranks without endangering the safety of the whole.

Next in importance to unanimity and peace, the convention will be called upon to create the Parish Committee, so important in the approaching active campaign, and which should consist of the truest, bravest and most discreet men that can be found in the Republican ranks.

We bespeak a harmonious session, and a successful issue to the labors of the Parish Convention.

REMARKABLE COINCIDENCE.

THE MEDIUM AT WORK.

Among our most readable country exchanges are the *Concordia Eagle* the organ of Hon. David Young and the *St. Charles Herald* the organ of Hon. Michael Hahn, and we have been struck, more than once, with the sympathetic and literal similarity between the outside of these two journals, thus reversing the resemblance existing between the proprietors. In person they are very unlike on the outside and with great similarity internally; both being shrewd, witty, diplomatic, thrifty men, with a large proportion in their composition of the scripture character described as "the prudent man" who foreseeth the evil and hideth himself.

There are two announced editors on the *Eagle* and *Herald*, but this resemblance may result from a united and concerted effort to make up a common outside, or possibly one of our conferees is a medium and is in rapport with his neighbor.

The enterprising journal that claims to be the "oldest and best," the *New Orleans Picayune* has had one of its reporters busy for the last few weeks, trying to create the impression that certain leading colored men were opposed to Gov. Pinchback, and that the disturbances in the party primary elections in several wards of this city, grew out of a contest between Pinchback men and anti-Pinchback men, in which the latter were successful, and we have no doubt, but what they wished it was so in the bottom of their hearts, for nothing would so delight the *Picayune* and papers of its ilk, as to see the colored men desert Mr. Pinchback.

We submit to the public whether it would not have been more to the credit of that journal had its reporter given a little of the time devoted to ward politics to that little State House lease matter.

THE FINANCIAL QUESTION.

THE PRESIDENT'S VETO.

Not only the material interest of the country have been in a confused and embarrassed condition since the beginning of the first term of President Grant, originating in the morbid stimulus given to speculation, and the derangements in trade, growing out of the late civil strife, but the financial system of the country, considering its good features, has been felt to be not only defective in structure, but inadequate in power to meet the commercial necessities of the Nation.

The subject has been referred to in all the messages of the President, the suggestions therein, more or less pertinent to the legislation necessary under the circumstances.

The communities of the West and South and South-West have had two fundamental convictions, on the question of finance and the members of Congress representing the constituencies of these sections, have constantly aimed to legislate in harmony with the conviction of their people. The first conviction has been that the volume of money in the country, including coin, currency, and bank issue was too small to move with facility and economy, the aggregate values of the nation, and that in addition to other obstacles, the trade and commerce of the country was embarrassed by a deficiency in the amount of media of exchange—money.

The second conviction cognates to this, but additional thereto equally strongly obtained, that because of the location of the moneyed centres of the North and East, and from favoritism in legislation and other causes the distribution of money had been so far unequal that the people of the West, South and Southwest had not received their pro rata or fair proportion. Under the influence of these impressions we find the Senators and Representatives, with a few prominent exceptions, in attempting to carry out the convictions of their people arrayed against the capitalist of New England, the Middle and Atlantic States.

The Senate financial bill is the result of Congressional action under the already specified circumstances representing in its structure and philosophy the Western and Southern ideas on finance. This bill the President, after mature deliberation, has vetoed and given his reasons therefor in the subjoined message:

WASHINGTON, April 22.—The following is the President's veto message:

To the Senate of the United States:

Herewith I return Senate bill No. 617, entitled an act to fix the amount of United States notes, and the circulation of national banks, and for other purposes, without my approval. In doing so I must express my regret at not being able to give my assent to a measure which has received the sanction of a majority of the legislators chosen by the people to make laws for their guidance. I have studiously sought to find sufficient argument to justify such assent, but unsuccessfully. Practically it is a question whether the measure under discussion would give an additional dollar to the irredeemable paper currency of the country or not, and whether by requiring three-fourths of the reserve to be retained by the banks, and prohibiting interest to be received on the balance, it might not prove a contraction; but the fact cannot be concealed that theoretically the bill increases the paper circulation one hundred million of dollars, less only the amount of reserve restrained from circulation by the provision of the second section. The measure has been supported on the theory that it would give increased circulation. It is a fair inference, therefore, that if in practice the measure should fail to create the abundance of circulation expected of it, the friends of the measure, particularly those out of Congress, would clamor for such inflation as would give the expected relief. The theory, in my belief, is a departure from true principles of national interest, national obligations to creditors, Congressional promises, party pledges on the part of both political parties, and of personal views and promises made by

me in every annual message sent to Congress and in each inaugural address. In my annual message to Congress, in December, 1869, the following passage appears: "Among the evils growing out of the rebellion and not yet referred to, is that of an irredeemable currency. It is an evil which I hope will receive your most earnest attention. It is a duty, and one of the highest duties of government, to secure to the citizen a medium of exchange of fixed, unvarying value. This implies a return to a specie basis and no substitute for it can be devised. It should be commenced now and reached at the earliest practicable moment consistent with a fair regard to debtor classes; immediate resumption, if practicable, would not be desirable. It would compel the debtor classes to pay beyond their contracts the premium on gold at the date of their purchase, and would bring bankruptcy and ruin to thousands. Fluctuations, however, in the paper value, of the measures of all values—gold—is detrimental to the interests of trade; it makes the man of business an involuntary gambler, for in all sales where future payment is to be made both parties speculate as to what will be the value of the currency to be paid and received. I earnestly recommend to you, then, such legislation as will insure a gradual return to specie payment and put an immediate stop to fluctuations in the value of currency." I still adhere to the views then expressed. As early as December 4, 1865, the House of Representatives passed a resolution, by a vote of 144 yeas to 6 nays, concurring in the views of the Secretary of the Treasury in relation to the necessity of a contraction of the currency, with a view to an early redemption of specie payments as the business interests of the country will permit, and pledging co-operation to this end as speedily as possible. The first act passed by the Forty-first Congress, on March 18, 1869, was as follows: An act to strengthen the public credit of the United States.

Be it enacted, etc., That in order to remove any doubt as to the purpose of the Government to discharge all its obligations to the public creditors, and to settle conflicting questions and interpretation of the law, by virtue of which such obligations have been contracted, it is hereby provided and declared that the faith of the United States is solemnly pledged to the payment in coin, or its equivalent, of all the obligations of the United States, and of all the interest bearing obligations except in cases where the law authorizing the issue of any such obligations has expressly provided that the sale may be paid in lawful money or in other currency than gold and silver, but none of the said interest bearing obligations not already due shall be redeemed or paid before maturity, unless at such times as the United States notes shall be convertible into coin at the option of the holder, or unless at such time bonds of the United States bearing a lower rate of interest than the bonds to be redeemed can be sold at par in coin, and the United States also solemnly pledges its faith to make provision, at the earliest practicable period, for the redemption of the United States notes in coin. This act still remains as a continuing pledge of the faith of the United States to make a provision at the earliest practical moment for the redemption of the United States notes in coin, a declaration contained in the act of June 30, 1864, created an obligation that the total amount of United States notes issued, or to be issued, should never exceed four hundred millions of dollars, the amount in actual circulation to be gradually reduced to three hundred and fifty millions of dollars, at which point Congress passed the act of February 4, '68, suspending the further reduction of the currency, the forty-four millions have even been regarded as a reserve to be used only in case of emergency, such as has occurred on several occasions, and must occur when from any cause revenues suddenly fall below expenditures, and such a reserve is necessary, because the fractional currency, amounting to fifty millions, is redeemable in legal tender on call. It may be said that such a return o

fractional currency for redemption is impossible, but let steps be taken for a return to a specie basis, and it will be found that silver will take the place of fractional currency as rapidly as it can be supplied. When the premium on gold reaches a sufficiently low point, with the amount of United States notes to be issued permanently fixed within proper limits, and the treasury so strengthened as to be able to redeem them in coin on demand, it will then be safe to inaugurate a system of free banking, with such provisions as to make compulsory redemption of the circulating notes of the banks in coin or in the notes themselves, redeemable and made equivalent to coin, as a measure preparatory to free banking or for placing the Government in a condition to redeem its notes in coin at the earliest practicable moment; the revenues of the country should be increased so as to pay current expenses, provided for the sinking fund required by law, and also a surplus to be retained in the treasury in gold. I am not a believer in any artificial method of making paper money equal to coin, when the coin is not owned or held ready to redeem the promises to pay, for paper money is nothing more than promises to pay, and is valuable exactly in proportion to the amount of coin that it can be converted into, while coin is not used as a circulating medium, or the currency of the country is not convertible into it at par it becomes an article of commerce as much as any other produce the surplus will seek a foreign market, as will any other surplus. The balance of trade has nothing to do with the question. The duties on imports being required in coin creates a limited demand for gold. About enough to satisfy that demand remains in the country. To increase this supply I see no way open but by the Government hoarding through the means above given, and possibly by requiring the National banks to aid. It is claimed by the advocates of the measure herewith returned that there is an unequal distribution of the banking capital of the country. I was disposed to give great weight to this view of the question at first, but on reflection, it will be remembered that there still remains four millions dollars of authorized bank note circulation assigned to States having less than their quota not yet taken. In addition to this these States having less than their quota of bank circulation have the option of twenty five-million more, to be taken from the States having more than their proportion. When this is all taken up, or specie payments are fully restored, or are in rapid process of restoration, will be the time to consider the question of more currency.

(Signed) U. S. GRANT,
Executive Mansion, April 22, 1874.

CIVIL RIGHTS IN THE CHURCHES.

We reproduce below, from the *South Western* religious weekly edited by Rev. Dr. Hartzell of this city, an interesting article on the Question of color in the churches. The article is sober and healthy in tone, moderate in demand, and forcible in statement, showing one of the many forms in which prejudice on the score of race and color abridges the rights of our race; invading even the precincts of the sanctuary of a God who proclaims himself "no respecter of persons," looking with an equal and even eye upon the worshiper whether he be African or Caucasian.

The views taken by Dr. Hartzell are similar to those expressed by us on the civil rights bill in a late issue of our journal:

THE QUESTION OF COLOR IN THE CHURCHES.
The official board and pastor of Ames Church in this city have lately taken the responsibility of excluding persons of color from the audience room of their house of worship except as they may go to the gallery. Our duty as a public journalist no less than our official relation to this church as president, demand that we should speak in no uncertain way of this action. We not only regret it, but consider it contrary to the spirit of the Methodist Episcopal Church as well

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WM. THOMPSON, P. N. G.

I. REIVAS, N. G.

ALEX. JOHNSON, V. G.

JAMES LEVINGSTON, Treas.

WM. A. BABON, Sec'y.

THE NEW ORLEANS FIRE ALARM TELEGRAPH.

THE SYSTEM OF STRIKING WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:

For instance, if an alarm is given from Box No. 123, the bells will strike 1, then a pause of 5 seconds; then the bells will strike 2, then another pause of 5 seconds, and the bells will strike 3—123. There will be a pause of 10 seconds between each full number. Or if an alarm is given from Box No. 48, the bells will strike 4, then the pause of 5 seconds, and then strike 8—48. A General Alarm will be indicated by striking 15 blows upon the bells. An additional general alarm will be indicated by striking 20 blows, which will concentrate the entire Fire Department to the box from which the alarm sounded.

Boxes designated by * are automatic.

5 Corner Harmony and Levee streets
6 Corner Washington and Chippewa streets
7 Ninth Street Market
8 Corner Carondelet and Eight streets
9 " Prytanik and Ninth streets
12 " Magnolia and Washington streets
13 " Sixth and St. Denis streets
14 Engine House of Fire Co. No. 22
15 Engine House of Fire Co. No. 23
16 Lafayette H. & L. Fire Co. No. 1
17 Corner Live Oak and First street
18 " Magazine and St. Andrew streets
19 " Rousseau and St. Mary streets
21 " St. Charles and First streets
23 " Dryades and St. Andrew streets
24 " Keller Market
25 Corner Jackson and Coliseum street
26 " Jackson and Liberty streets
27 " Second and Dryades streets
29 " Market street and Levee
31 " Henderson street and Levee
32 Engine House of Fire Co. No. 12
34 Engine House of Fire Co. No. 1
35 Corner Market and Chippewa streets
36 Second Precinct Police Station
37 Corner Race and Magazine street
38 " Melpomine and Camp streets
41 Horse Station, St. Charles street
42 Engine House, Fire Co. No. 20, Thalia street
43 Corner Franklin and Terperechore streets
47 " Gainie and New Levee streets
48 Engine House, Fire Co. No. 6, St. Joseph st.

51 Corner Constance and Erato streets
52 " Camp and St. Joseph streets
53 Engine House, Fire Company No. 18 Callopie street
54 Corner New Basin and Triton Walk
56 " Howard and Clio streets
57 " Magnolia and Erato streets
61 " Erato and Franklin streets
65 " Julia and Levee streets
71 Foot of Julia street
72 Corner Canal and Levee streets
73 " Magazine and Girod streets
74 " Natchez and Tehouptoulas streets
81 " Canal and Camp streets
82 Engine House, No. 5 and City Hall
83 Engine House, Fire Company No. 13
84 Corner Carondelet and Common streets
121 Corner Rampart and Canal streets
123 " Rampart and Poydras streets
124 Engine House, Fire Co. No. 14, Common street
125 Workhouse, Girod street
126 Corner Common and Roebellave streets
127 Corner Claiborne and Poydras streets
141 Corner Bienville and Old Levee streets
143 Corner St. Louis and Royal streets
145 Engine House, Fire Co. No. 7, Dauphine street
146 Corner Burgundy and Toulouse streets
147 Pelican H. & L. Fire Co. No. 4, Basin street
151 Canal and Robertson, Wood's Press
152 Corner Bienville and Johnson str
153 " Derbigny and Conti streets
214 " Old Levee and St. Philip streets
215 Police Station, Jackson Square
216 Corner Hospital and Dauphine streets
217 Engine House, Fire Co. No. 10, Damaie street
231 Corner Trempe and Esplanade st
232 " Rampart and Barracks st
234 Trempe Market and Parish Prison
235 Engine House, Fire Co. No. 21, Claiborne street
236 Corner Bayou Road and Claiborne streets
241 Engine House, Fire Co. No. 3, Bayou Road
243 Corner St. Anne and Miro streets
243 Siera's Factory, Frenchman and Broad streets
252 House H. & L. Fire Co. No. 3
253 Engine House, Fire Co. No. 9, Esplanade street
254 Engine House, Fire Co. No. 8, Victory street
312 Police Station, Elysian Fields st
313 Cor. Bagatelle and Esplanade st
314 " Goodchildren and St. Antoine
315 " " and Elysian Fields
316 " Claiborne and St. Bernard st
412 " Laharpe and White st, R. R. Depot
413 " Love and Spain streets
414 " Post and Urquhart streets
415 " Mandeville and Claiborne st
513 Cotton Press and Levee
514 Washington Market
515 Corner Clout and Rampart streets
516 Engine House No. 24 Greatmen st, near Fort
613 Corner Dauphine and Independence streets
614 Poland street Car Station
615 United States Barracks
616 Corner Baynes & Dauphine streets

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